

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR § 1.111
Application No. 09/903,476

contacting an alkylatable aromatic compound and an alkylating agent with an alkylation catalyst comprising a molecular sieve under alkylation conditions; and

C¹ when said alkylation catalyst has become at least partially deactivated, at least partially restoring alkylation activity of said alkylation catalyst by contacting said alkylation catalyst with an oxygen-containing gas at a temperature of about 120 to about 600° C; and then

further increasing alkylation activity of said alkylation catalyst by contacting the oxygen treated alkylation catalyst with an aqueous medium.

- C² 13. [Twice Amended] A process for alkylating an aromatic compound comprising:
contacting an alkylatable aromatic compound and an alkylating agent with an alkylation catalyst comprising a molecular sieve under alkylation conditions; and
when said alkylation catalyst has become at least partially deactivated, contacting said alkylation catalyst with an oxygen-containing gas at a temperature of about 120 to about 600° C; and then
contacting the oxygen treated alkylation catalyst with an aqueous medium selected from the group consisting of ammonium nitrate solution and ammonium carbonate solution.

- C³ 19. [Twice Amended] A process for alkylating an aromatic compound comprising:
contacting an alkylatable aromatic compound and an alkylating agent with an alkylation catalyst comprising a molecular sieve under alkylation conditions; and
when said alkylation catalyst has become at least partially deactivated, contacting said alkylation catalyst with an oxygen-containing gas at a temperature of about 120 to about 600° C; and then
contacting the oxygen treated alkylation catalyst with an aqueous medium, wherein the molecular sieve of the alkylation catalyst is PSH-3, SSZ-25,

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MCM-22, MCM-36, MCM-49, MCM-56, faujasite, mordenite or zeolite
beta.

A marked-up version of the existing claims 5, 13, and 19 showing the changes
incorporated in the amended claims is attached on a separate sheet.

Please add the following claim 25:

25. The process of claim 5 wherein mono-selectivity of the oxygen treated alkylation catalyst is increased in the step of contacting said oxygen treated alkylation catalyst with an aqueous medium.

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request entry of this Amendment and reconsideration of
this application as amended.

Summary of Status of Amendments and Office Action

Claims 13 through 23 presently stand allowed as amended by the Examiner.
Claims 1 through 12 and 24 presently stand canceled.

The Examiner has amended the claims 13 and 19 to read as follows:

13. A process for alkylating an aromatic compound comprising:
 contacting an alkylatable aromatic compound and an alkylating agent with
 an alkylation catalyst comprising a molecular sieve under
 alkylation conditions; and
 when said alkylation catalyst has become at least partially deactivated,
 contacting said alkylation catalyst with an oxygen-containing gas
 at a temperature of about 120 to about 600°C; and then